

P.O. Box 30220 Lansing, Michigan 48909-7720 Toll Free (877) 999-6442 Lansing Area (517) 373-0220 Web site: www.cis.state.mi.us/ofis

Thursday, September 13, 2001 CONTACT: Julie K. Smith 517-335-1700

PRESS CONFERENCE

Friday, September 14, 10:30 a.m.

Ottawa Building, Upper Parking (UP) level Conference Room #3, Lansing, MI Subject: Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan (BCBSM) 2001 Financial Examination

The Michigan Office of Financial and Insurance Services (OFIS) and Commissioner Frank M. Fitzgerald will release and provide an overview of the 2001 financial examination of BCBSM. Copies of examination findings will be available at 10:00 a.m. in Conference Room #3. The material is embargoed until 10:30 a.m. Material distributed at the press conference will be emailed and delivered to mailboxes after 10:30 a.m.

The Ottawa Building is a state office building located on the southwest corner of Ottawa and Pine streets in downtown Lansing. For directions, please call 877-999-6442 or link to directions on the OFIS web site at http://www.cis.state.mi.us/ofis/contact/driving_directions.asp#COMM (follow the directions for the Commissioner's office). Conference room #3 is located on the UP level that can be accessed by elevator (marked by the UP button) or by going down one flight of stairs from the first floor. Parking is available along side streets near the Ottawa Building, in the downtown parking structures, or in front of the state library (located on the southeast corner of Butler and Allegan streets, just to the south of the Ottawa Building).

Please bring press credentials or driver's license with business card.

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The Michigan Offices of Financial and Insurance Services (OFIS) is responsible for the regulation of Blue Cross Blue Shield, 29 HMOs, 145 banks, 175 domestic insurance companies, 291 credit unions, 1,300 foreign insurance companies, 1,583 investment advisers, 2,164 securities broker-dealers, 6,000 consumer finance lenders, 89,000 insurance agents, and 120,715 securities agents. OFIS is part of the Department of Consumer and Industry Services and is primarily fee-funded, requiring minimal public tax dollars for its regulatory and consumer assistance activities. OFIS has insurance, financial institutions and securities information available on the web at www.cis.state.mi.us/ofis.

If you would like to receive OFIS press releases electronically, please email julia.k.smith@cis.state.mi.us.